THE MERRILL READERS

PRIMER

DYER & BRADY

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PREFACE

THE process of teaching the child to read has gone through many stages of progress. We have gradually come to see that word and sentence and phonic methods may each contribute to the process, and that undue emphasis on any one of these methods demands too great a sacrifice in quality and interest.

The real problem in teaching the beginner lies in finding a medium by which he may, with the most interest and the least difficulty, acquire a reading vocabulary and the power to extend that vocabulary through his own efforts.

From what basis shall we start? Surely we should use something with which children are familiar and for which they have a natural liking. Children like rhythm and jingles and they take delight in the swing of repetition in verse and prose. Most children are familiar with some of the old nursery rhymes and tales, and the children who have not heard the nursery lore at home will readily learn it at school. These favorite rhymes and folk tales afford the happiest way of learning to read. For the first lessons the rhymes are best, because their rhythm helps and encourages the halting steps of the little beginner.

The MERRILL PRIMER is built on the familiar rhymes of Mother Goose and other old nursery books. Each rhyme is followed by a group of stories in which the words and phrasing of the rhyme are used. This gives abundant practice in word recognition without formal repetition. The story interest is prominent from the

start and contributes no small part to the child's mastery of the vocabulary. In every line, this PRIMER is real reading for the child.

Without sacrifice of quality and interest in the reading matter, this book provides for all the desirable mechanics of learning to read. They are explained in the SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS which accompany the Series. The basic phonic vocabulary is very largely used in the stories, and through growing familiarity with these phonic elements the child gains steadily in word mastery.

In the preparation of this book, the authors have had the help of many experts in primary reading, whose suggestions and advice have been of great value. To all of these grateful acknowledgment is due, and in particular to Miss Elizabeth Hall, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Minneapolis; Miss Alice L. Harris, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Worcester, Massachusetts; Miss Ella Keith, Critic Teacher in the Model School of Hunter College, New York City; Miss Edith A. Winship, joint author of *The Merrill Speller;* Miss Clara M. Wheeler, teacher in the Horace Mann Elementary School, Teachers College, New York City; and Miss Elga M. Shearer, Assistant Supervisor of Practice in the State Normal School, Superior, Wisconsin.

F. B. DYER
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NOTE.—"Mother Goose" and other collections of old nursery rhymes are the source of the rhymes on pages 5, 8 to 11, 20, 29, 36, 40, 42, 44, 54, 58, 60, 64, 68, 76, 79, 84, 91, 98, 99, 100, 101, 108 to 111 and 123. The stories on pages 104 to 107 are based on Æsop's fables, and the story on page 112 is an old English fairy tale.

See-saw! See-saw!
Here we go up and down.
See-saw! See-saw!
This is the way to town.

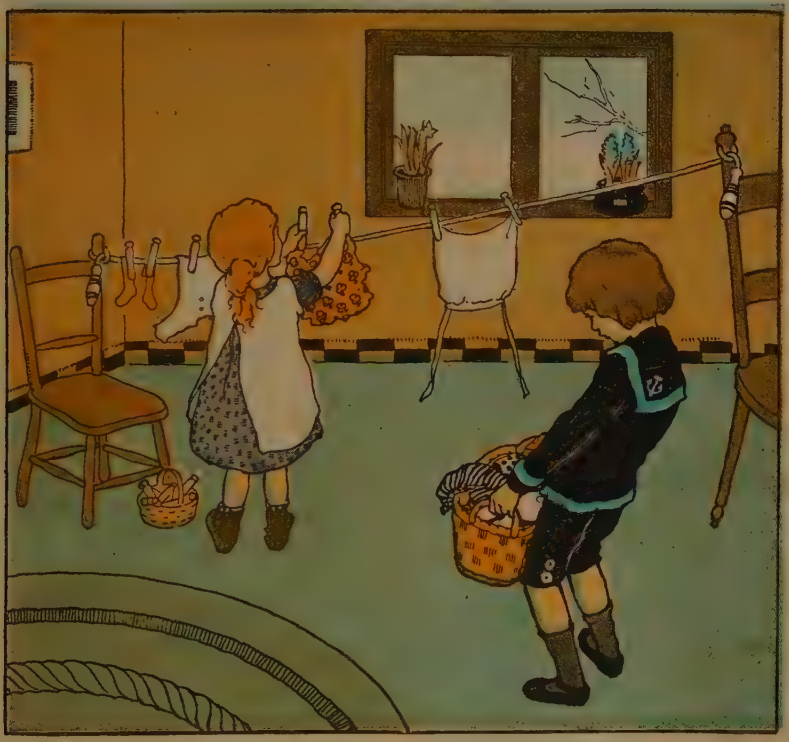
See-saw! See-saw!
Here we go up and down.

Here we go. Here we go.
Up and down! Up and down!
This is the way to town.

Here we go. Here we go.
This is the way we go to town.

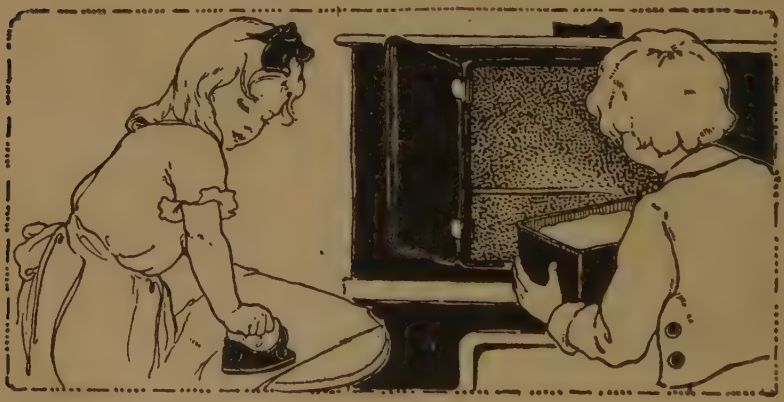
See-saw! See-saw!
Up and down! Up and down!
This is the way we go to town.

This is the way we wash our clothes,
Wash our clothes,
Wash our clothes;
This is the way we wash our clothes,
On a cold and frosty morning.



This is the way we dry our clothes,
Dry our clothes,
Dry our clothes;
This is the way we dry our clothes,
On a cold and frosty morning.

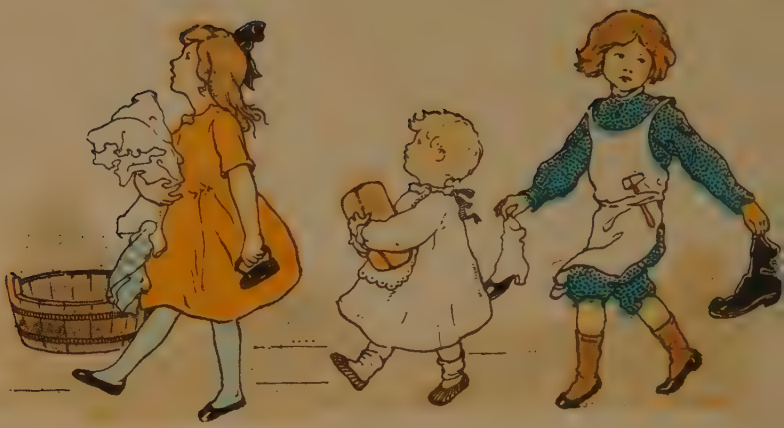
This is the way we iron our clothes,
Iron our clothes,
Iron our clothes;
This is the way we iron our clothes,
On a cold and frosty morning.



This is the way we bake our bread,
Bake our bread,
Bake our bread;
This is the way we bake our bread,
On a cold and frosty morning.

This is the way we sweep the house,
Sweep the house,
Sweep the house;
This is the way we sweep the house,
On a cold and frosty morning.

This is the way we mend our shoes,
Mend our shoes,
Mend our shoes;
This is the way we mend our shoes,
On a cold and frosty morning.



We wash our clothes,
And we dry our clothes,
And this is the way we do it.

We bake our bread,
And we sweep our house,
And this is the way we do it.

We mend our clothes,
And we mend our shoes,
And this is the way we do it.

This is the way we play house.
We wash and dry the clothes.
We iron and mend the clothes.
This is the way we play house.

Wash and iron and mend;
Wash and iron and mend;
This is the way we play,
On a cold and frosty morning.

This is the way we play see-saw.
You go up and I go down.
Up and down! Up and down!
I go up and you go down.

You and I play house,
and this is the way we do it.
You bake the bread.
I sweep the house.
You wash and dry the clothes.
I iron and mend the clothes.

Wash and dry and iron,
Bake and sweep and mend;
This is the way we play,
On a cold and frosty morning.

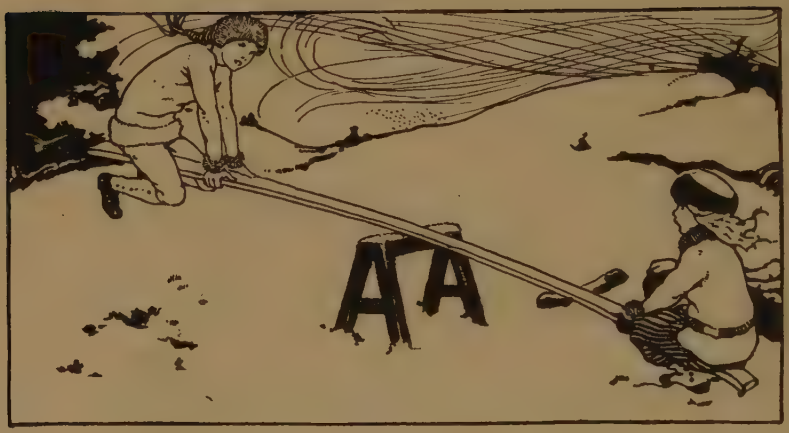
This is the way we bake and sweep,
Bake and sweep, bake and sweep;
This is the way we bake and sweep,
So early in the morning.

This is the way we go to town,
You and I, you and I;
This is the way we go to town,
So early in the morning.

We play store,
and this is the way we do it.
We go to town.
We go to the store.
You buy bread.
I buy shoes and clothes.
This is the way we play,
so early in the morning.

Tom and Mary play store.
Mary buys bread.
Tom buys shoes and clothes.

Tom and Mary play see-saw.
Up and down! Up and down!
This is the way to go to town,
so early in the morning.



Good morning. Good morning.
It is cold and frosty,
so early in the morning.
Here we go. Here we go.
Here we go to town.

You can see Tom go up, up, up.
You can see Mary go down, down, down.
This is a good way to play,
on a cold morning.

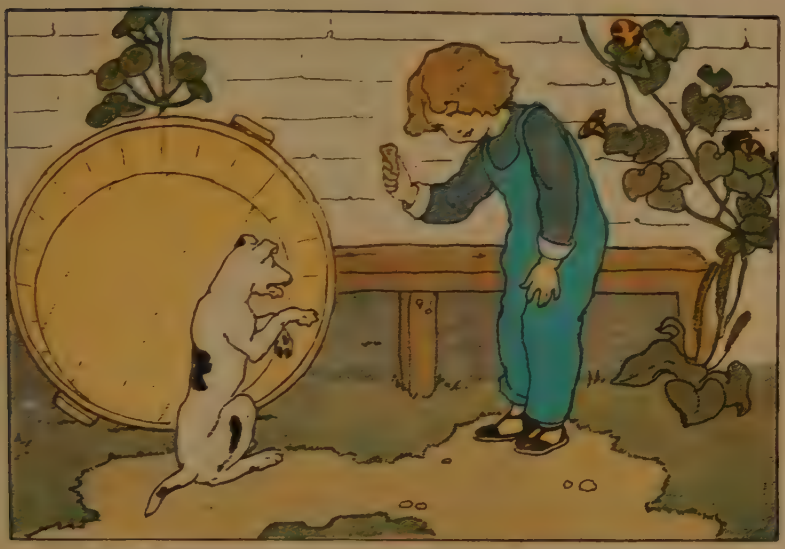
Tom: Good morning, Mary.
This is a cold morning.

Mary: Good morning, Tom.
It is cold and frosty,
so early in the morning.

Tom: I must go to town.
I must go to the store.
I must buy shoes.
Can you go to town?

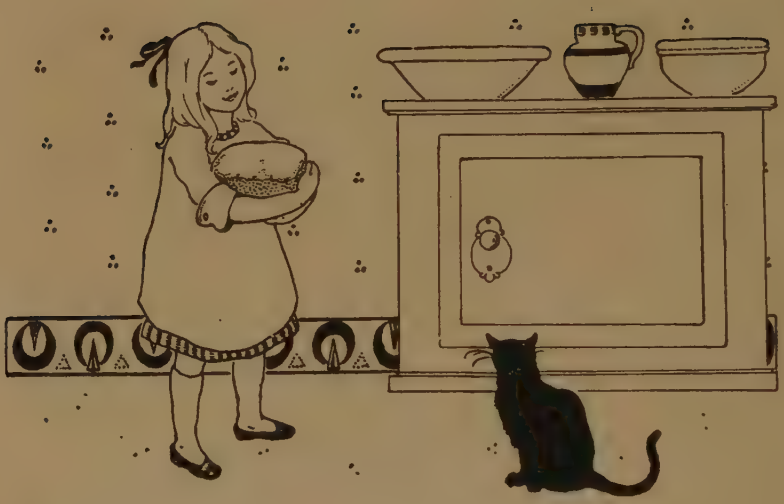
Mary: I can not go to town.
I must sweep our house
and bake our bread.
I can not go to town,
so early in the morning.

Little Tom Tucker
Sings for his supper;
What shall he eat?
White bread and butter.



Here is Tom's dog.
He asks for his supper.
What shall he eat?
Shall he eat white bread and butter?

Bow-wow-wow. Bow-wow-wow.
This is the way.
Tom's dog asks for his supper.



This is kitty.

She is Mary's kitty.

She asks for her supper.

What shall she eat?

Shall she eat white bread and butter?

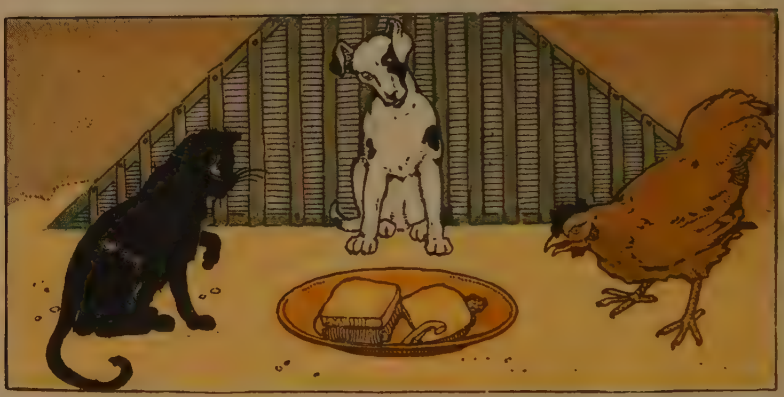
Meow, meow, meow.

This is the way

kitty asks for her supper.

Here is Mary's hen.
She is a little red hen.
She asks for her supper.
What shall we give the little red hen?
Shall we give her bread and butter?

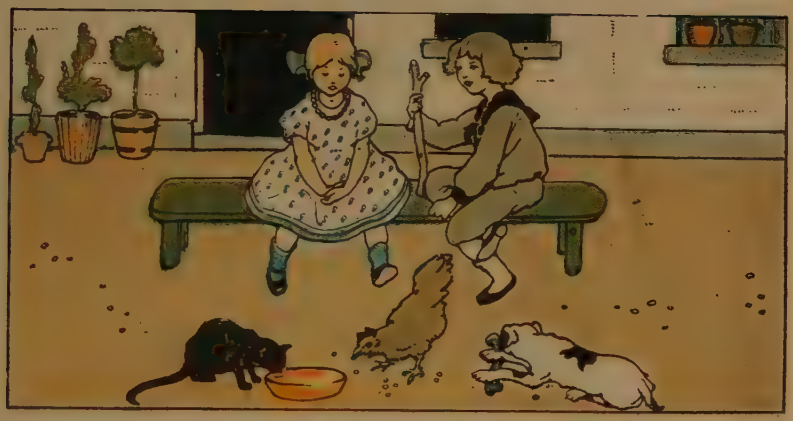
Cluck, cluck, cluck.
This is the way the little red hen
asks for her supper.



Dog: Bow-wow-wow. Bow-wow-wow.
I do not eat bread and butter.
I like meat for supper.

Kitty: Meow, meow, meow. I like milk.
I do not like bread and butter.
Must I eat bread and butter?

Hen: Cluck, cluck, cluck. I like corn.
Must I eat bread and butter?
I like corn for supper.



Mary: My little kitty asks for milk.
I will give her some milk.

Tom: My dog asks for meat.
He likes meat for his supper.
Come, little dog. Come here.

Mary: My little red hen likes corn.
I will give her some corn.
Come, little red hen.
Here is some corn for you.

Come, kitty, my good little kitty.
Here is your milk.
You must ask for it.
Sing for your milk.
Purr, purr, purr, purr.

This is the way we feed our pets,
Feed our pets, feed our pets;
This is the way we feed our pets,
So early in the morning.

Spot is my dog.

He is a good dog.

I feed him.

I give him meat for his supper.

Spot asks for his meat.

He can not sing for his supper.

Run, Spot, run.

What fun it is to run!

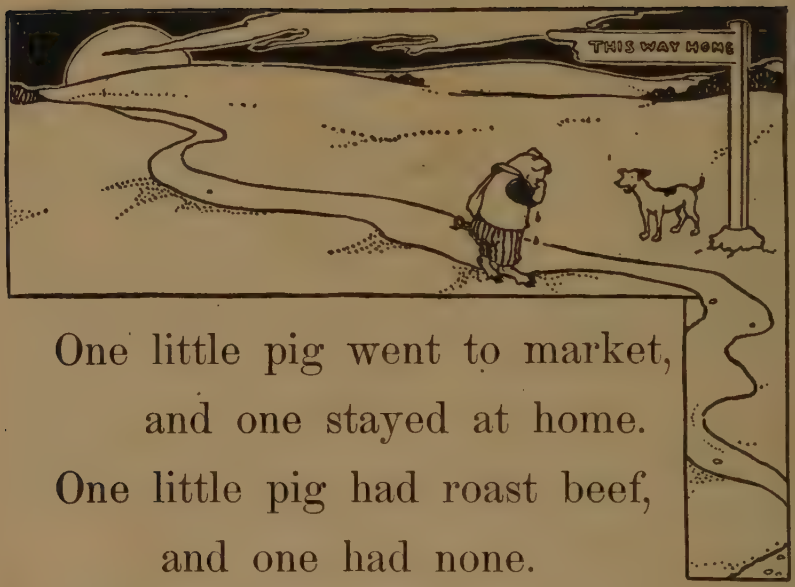
Here we go.

We will run and run and run.

This is the way we feed our pets.
Tom calls, "Come, Spot. Come, Spot."
Mary calls, "Come, kitty, kitty, kitty.
Come, my little red hen."
So Spot runs to get his meat,
and kitty runs to get her milk,
and the hen runs to get her corn.

Run! Run! Run!
What fun it is to run,
on a cold and frosty day!

This little pig went to market;
This little pig stayed at home;
This little pig had roast beef;
This little pig had none;
This little pig cried, "Wee, wee, wee.
I can't find my way home."



One little pig went to market,
and one stayed at home.
One little pig had roast beef,
and one had none.
One little pig cried and cried.
He cried, "Wee, wee, wee.
I can't find my way home.
I can't find my way home."

Come here, little pig. Come here.
This is the way home.
Run home, little pig. Run home.

The little dog went to market.
The little cat stayed at home.
The little dog had roast beef.
The little cat had none.
The little cat cried, "Meow, meow.
Please give me some meat."

The little white hen went to market.
The little red hen stayed at home.
The little white hen had some corn.
The little red hen had none.
The little red hen cried, "Cluck, cluck.
Please give me some corn."

One day Spot had some meat.
The little kitty had none.
Kitty cried, "Why can't I have some?
I like meat for my supper.
Please give me some meat.
Why can't I have some?"
So Spot said,
"I will give you some meat."

One day the white hen had some corn.
The little red hen had none.
She cried, "Why can't I have some?
I like corn for my supper.
Please give me some corn."
So the white hen said,
"I will give you some corn."

One day the red hen went to market.
Kitty and Spot went to market, too.

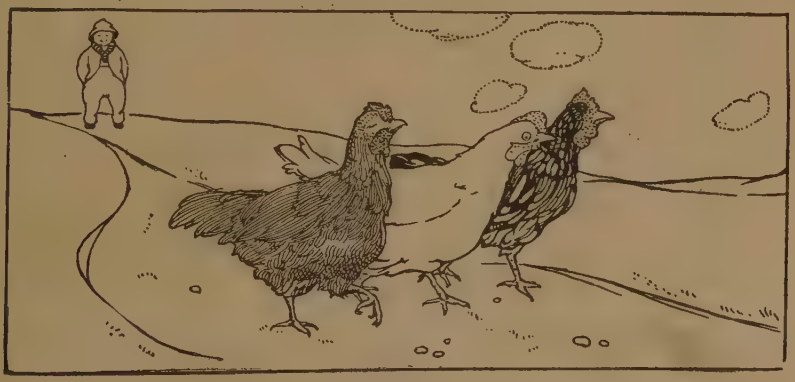
Kitty cried, "I can't find my way home.
Please take me home."
The little red hen cried,
"I can't find my way home.
Please, oh, please take me home."
Spot said, "I can find my way home.
Come! This is the way home."

One day I went to market.
I saw a man at the market.
The man had a little white hen,
and a little red hen,
and a little brown hen.

The white hen cried, "Cluck, cluck.
Please let me go home."
The red hen cried, "Cluck, cluck.
Please let me go home."
The brown hen cried, "Cluck, cluck.
Please, oh, please let me go home."

The white hen cried,
"Why can't I go home?"
The red hen cried,
"Why can't I go home?"
The brown hen cried,
"Oh, why can't I go home?"

So the man said,
"Can you find your way home?
I will let you go home.
Run home! Run home!"



This is the house
That Jack built.

This is the malt
That lay in the house
That Jack built.

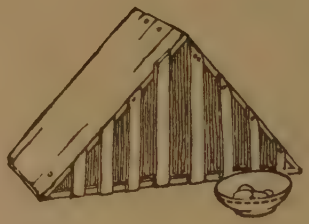
This is the rat
That ate the malt
That lay in the house
That Jack built.

This is the cat
That caught the rat
That ate the malt
That lay in the house
That Jack built.

One day Jack built a house.
He had malt in his house.
Then a rat came to Jack's house.
The rat ate the malt.

Then a cat came and caught the rat.
Jack said, "Good kitty!
You caught the rat
that ate the malt in my house."

Tom built a little house one day.
A hen lived in the little house.
Mary fed the hen
that lived in the house
that Tom built.

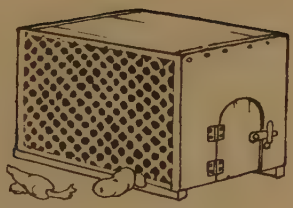


This is the house
That Tom built.

This is the hen
That lived in the house
That Tom built.

This is the girl
That fed the hen
That lived in the house
That Tom built.

This is the house
That Father built.



This is the rabbit
That lived in the house
That Father built.

This is the girl
That fed the rabbit
That lived in the house
That Father built.

This is the dog
That caught the rabbit
That lived in the house
That Father built.

Ride a cock-horse
To Banbury Cross,
To see a fine lady
Upon a white horse.

Ride a cock-horse to Banbury Cross,
To see what Tommy can buy;
A penny white loaf, a penny white cake,
And a two-penny apple pie.

Gallop, gallop, gallop!
See my fine horse.
I am going to gallop to town.
I shall ride to the store.
I shall buy a penny white loaf,
a penny white cake,
and a two-penny apple pie.
I am going to see a fine lady
upon a white horse.

Gallop, gallop, gallop!
That is the way my father rides.
Father rides a brown horse.

Trot, trot, trot!
That is the way Tom rides.
He rides a cock-horse.

Trot, trot! Gallop, gallop!
That is the way the lady rides.
She rides a fine white horse.

This is the way the gentlemen ride,
Gallop-a-trot, gallop-a-trot!
This is the way the gentlemen ride,
Gallop-a-gallop-a-trot!

This is the penny,
The little round penny,
That pays for the loaf
That Tom buys.

This is the penny,
The little round penny,
That pays for the cake
That Tom buys.

This is the pie,
The big round pie,
The big apple pie,
That Tom buys.

Ride a cock-horse to Banbury Cross,
to see what you can buy.

To market, to market,
To buy a plum cake;
Home again, home again,
Baby is late.

To market, to market,
To buy a plum bun;
Home again, home again,
Market is done.

To market, to market, to buy a fat pig;
Home again, home again, jiggety-jig.

One day Mother said,
"I am going to market.
I will buy milk for Baby.
What shall I buy for Tom and Mary?"

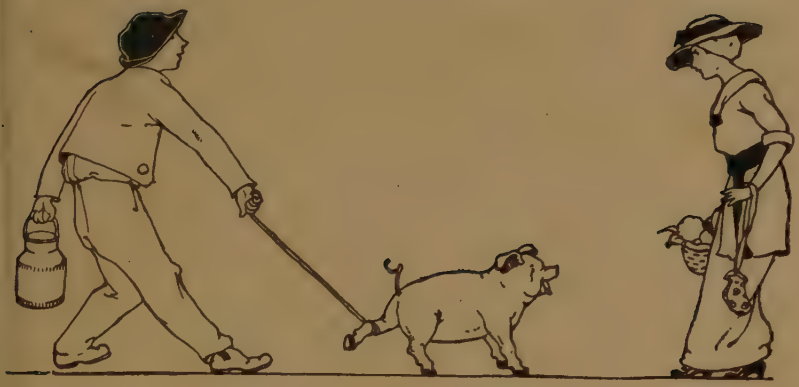
Mary said, "Oh, Mother,
please buy a big plum cake.
Please buy a cake for Tom.
Please buy one for me, too."

Man: Plum cakes! Plum cakes!
Who will buy my plum cakes?

Mother: I will buy your plum cakes.
Mary shall have a plum cake.

Man: Apples! Apples!
Who will buy my good apples?

Mother: I will buy your apples.
Tom shall have a big red apple.



Man: Milk! Milk!
Oh, who will buy my milk?

Mother: I will buy your milk for Baby.

Man: A fat pig! A fat pig!
Oh, who will buy my fat pig?

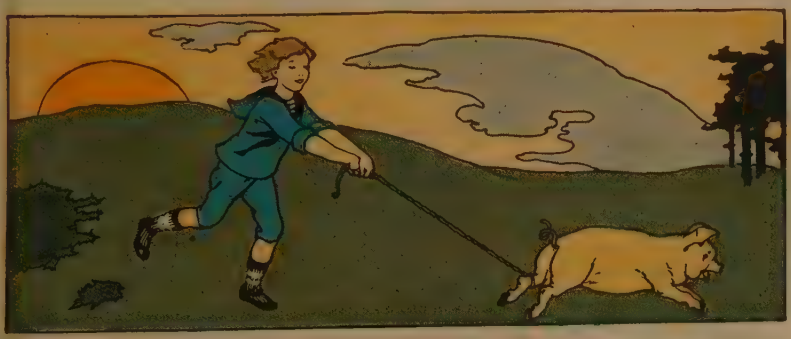
Mother: I did not come to market
to buy a pig.
What can I do with a pig?
I can not take a pig home.

Mother came home from market.
She said, "Here I come.
Here I come home from market.
Tom, here are some apples.
You shall have one for supper.
Will you sing for your supper?

Mary, here are your plum cakes.
Will you sing for your supper?
Will you give Tom a plum cake?
Do not give Baby a cake.
Plum cakes are not good for Baby.

Here is some milk for Baby.
Baby likes bread and milk.
Baby can not sing for his supper."

Mother said, "I saw a man
with a little pig.
I did not buy the little pig.
I can not take a pig
home from market with me."
Tom said, "Oh, Mother,
please buy a little pig for me.
Then I shall have a dog
and a rabbit and a pig.
I can take a pig home from market.
I will not let the pig run away."



This is the way we play market.
Tom and Mary go to market.
Spot and kitty go to market, too.

Tom: What shall we buy at the market?

Mary: I will buy a hat for my cat.
It must be a red hat.
I will buy a mat for my cat, too.

Tom: I will buy a wig for my pig.
It must be a big white wig.
The pig will go jiggety-jig.
Oh, what fun!

Mary: A hat for a cat!
A wig for a pig!
Oh, what fun!

Tom: A cat with a hat?
A wee little cat
With a big red hat!
Who ever saw a cat with a hat?

Kitty: Ha, ha! I never saw
a cat with a hat.
What a funny cat!

Mary: A pig with a wig?
A wee little pig
With a big, big wig!
Who ever saw a pig with a wig?

Spot: Ha, ha! I never saw
a pig with a wig.
What a funny pig!

One little boy built a house.
His name is Tom.
One little girl feeds the rabbits.
Her name is Mary.
One little boy eats bread and milk.
His name is Baby.

Some one sings purr, purr, purr.
What is her name?
Some one cries bow-wow-wow.
What is his name?

Some one built a little house
for the rabbit.
His name is Father.

Some one went to market.
Her name is Mother.

Father and Mother,
and Tom and Mary and Baby,
and Spot and kitty,
all live in one big house.

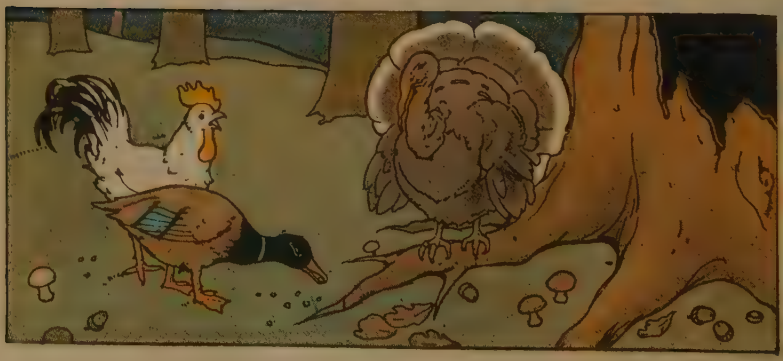
One day Tom said, "Mother,
please tell us a story."
Mary said, "Please tell us a story."
The baby said, "Tell a story.
Tell a story."
So Mother said, "I will tell you all
a story."
This is the story that Mother told us.

I had a rooster
and my rooster loved me.
I fed him under a hollow tree.
And the rooster cried,
"Cock-a-doodle-do!"

I had a hen and my hen loved me.
I fed her under a hollow tree.
And the hen cried,
"Cluck, cluck, cluck!"
And the rooster cried,
"Cock-a-doodle-do!"

I had a turkey
and my turkey loved me.
I fed him under a hollow tree.
And the turkey cried,
"Gobble, gobble, gobble!"
And the hen cried,
"Cluck, cluck, cluck!"
And the rooster cried,
"Cock-a-doodle-do!"

I had a duck and my duck loved me.
I fed her under a hollow tree.
And the duck cried,
"Quack, quack, quack!"
And the turkey cried,
"Gobble, gobble, gobble!"
And the hen cried,
"Cluck, cluck, cluck!"
And the rooster cried,
"Cock-a-doodle-do!"



I had a dog and my dog loved me.
I fed him under a hollow tree.
And the dog cried, "Bow-bow-wow!"
And the duck cried,
"Quack, quack, quack!"
And the turkey cried,
"Gobble, gobble, gobble!"
And the hen cried,
"Cluck, cluck, cluck!"
And the rooster cried,
"Cock-a-doodle-do!"

One, two, three, four, five,
I caught a hare alive.
Six, seven, eight, nine, ten,
I let her go again.

One little kitty said meow.
Two big dogs said bow-wow-wow.
Three little hens cried cluck, cluck.
Four big turkeys cried gobble, gobble.
Five little pigs cried wee, wee, wee.
Six fat ducks cried quack, quack, quack.

One little girl feeds the hens.
Two little boys feed the ducks.
Three little girls feed the turkeys.
Four little boys feed the rabbits.

Five little girls play house.
Six little boys play see-saw.
Seven little girls play store.
Eight little boys play market.

Nine little girls ride trot, trot, trot.
Ten little boys ride gallop-a-gallop.

Did you ever see a little girl
ride trot, trot, trot?
Did you ever see a little boy
ride gallop, gallop, gallop?

Jack and Jill went up the hill,
To fetch a pail of water;
Jack fell down, and broke his crown,
And Jill came tumbling after.

One day Mother said, "I must have some water.

Who will get a pail of water for me?"

Jack cried, "I will, Mother dear."

Jill cried, "I will, Mother dear.
I will get a pail of water for you."

So Jack and Jill went up the hill,
to get a pail of water.

"Good-by, Mother," cried Jack.

"Good-by, Mother," cried Jill.

Jack and Jill went up the hill.
They went to a well on the hill.
They went to get water from the well.
"We must fill the pail," said Jack.
"We must fill it with water," said Jill.
Then Jack and Jill came down
the hill with a big pail of water.
Jack ran with the pail of water,
and Jill ran, too.
Jack fell down,
and Jill came tumbling down, too.
Poor Jack! Poor Jill!

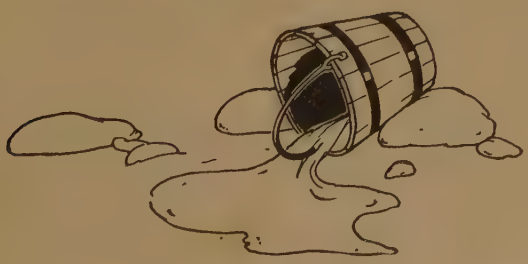
Jack and Jill ran home to Mother.

"Oh, Mother dear," cried Jack.

"Oh, Mother dear," cried Jill.

"We went up the hill.
We went to the well.
We had a big pail of water for you.
Then we fell down the hill.
The pail came tumbling
down the hill, too.
The water is all gone.
All gone. All gone."

"Poor Jack! Poor Jill!" cried Mother.

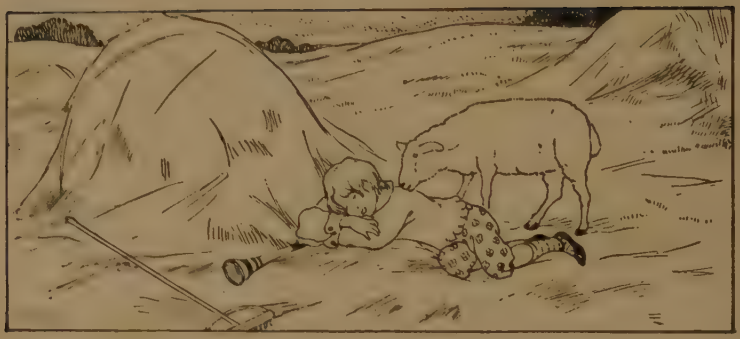


Little Boy Blue,
Come, blow your horn.
The sheep's in the meadow,
The cow's in the corn.
What! Is this the way
You mind your sheep,
Under the hay-cock, fast asleep?

Come, little Boy Blue.
Where are you? Where are you?
Come, blow your horn.
Your sheep are in the meadow.
Your cows are in the corn.

Come, blow your horn.
Call your sheep from the meadow.
Call your cows from the corn.
All the sheep have gone away.
All the cows have gone away.
You must call them home.
You must blow your horn
to call them home.

I can not see you, little Boy Blue.
Where are you? Where are you?



Little Boy Blue is fast asleep.
Wake up! Wake up!
What! Is this the way
you watch your sheep?
Wake up! Wake up!
You are fast asleep.

Come, blow your horn.
Call the sheep from the meadow.
Is this the way you watch your sheep,
under the hay-cock, fast asleep?

Little Boy Blue takes the cows out in the morning.

He lets them feed all day.

He must not let them get into the corn.

He must watch them all day.

Then he takes them home.

He blows his horn to call them home.

Little Bo-peep
has lost her sheep,
And can't tell
where to find them.

Leave them alone,
and they'll come home,
And bring their tails behind them.

Little Bo-peep has lost her sheep.
She has lost all her sheep.
She can't tell
    where to find them.
Where can they be?
Oh, where can they be?

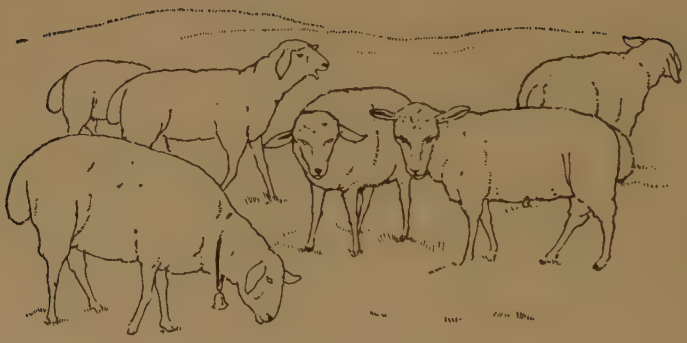
I will tell you the way
    little Bo-peep lost her sheep.

Oh, little Bo-peep,
She fell asleep,
Fell asleep, fell asleep;
Under the tree she fell asleep;
That is the way she lost her sheep.
Poor little Bo-peep!

Here is little Bo-peep.
She is lying under a tree.
She is fast asleep.

Come, little Bo-peep.
Wake up! Wake up!
What! Is this the way
you watch your sheep,
lying under a tree, fast asleep?
Wake up! Wake up, little Bo-peep.

Little Bo-peep has waked up.
She can not see her sheep.
She can't tell where to find them.
Little Bo-peep cries,
"Oh dear! Oh dear!
I came to watch my sheep.
Then I fell asleep.
Lying under a tree, I fell asleep.
Where are my sheep?
Little white sheep, white sheep!
Come home, come home."



Here are one, two, three sheep,
four, five, six sheep.
Six sheep have come home.

Here are your sheep, little Bo-peep.
They are not lost.
You can leave them alone.
They can find the way home.
Leave them alone,
and they'll come home,
and bring their tails behind them.

Mother told us a story
about Jack and Jill.
She told us a story about a rooster
and a turkey and a duck.
Then we all said, "Thank you, Mother."

Tom told us a story about Boy Blue.
Then we all said, "Thank you, Tom."

Mary told us a story about Bo-peep.
We all said, "Thank you, Mary."

Then we called Father and said,
"Father must tell us a story.
Please tell us a story, Father.
Please tell us a funny story."

This is the story that Father told us.

I met a little old man this morning.

"Good morning," said I.
"Good morning," said he.
"How do you do?" said I.
"How do you do?
How do you do?
And how do you do again?" said he.

"Very well, thank you," said I.
"How are you?"
"I am very well, very well,
and very well again," said he.
"Good-by," said I.
"Good-by, good-by,
and good-by again," said he.

Good morning! Good morning!
This is what we say
when the sun comes up.
Good night! Good night!
This is what we say
when the sun goes down.

Play that you are Jack and Jill.
Go up the hill to get a pail of water.
Fill your pail at the well.
Play that you are little Bo-peep.
Play that you are little Boy Blue.
Boy Blue must call the cows at night,
when the sun goes down.

White sheep, white sheep,
On a blue hill,
When the wind stops,
You all stand still.

When the wind blows,
You walk away slow;
White sheep, white sheep,
Where do you go?

Tom and Mary are on the hill.
They can see all the clouds
in the sky.

Mary: Look at the little white clouds.
They look like white sheep.

Tom: The sky is a blue hill.
The sheep are on the blue hill.

Mary: How the wind blows!
The sheep will all go away.

Tom: Yes, the wind blows them away.
It blows the clouds from the sky.
Look! They are all going away.

Mary: White sheep, white sheep,
where do you go?

Now the wind stops.
The clouds in the sky stand still.

Mary: Look at the sheep in the blue sky.
They all stand still.

Tom: Yes, when the wind stops,
the sheep stand still.

Mary: When the wind blows,
they all walk away.
The wind blows them all away.

Tom: I like to have the wind blow.

Mary: When the wind blows,
the white sheep will be lost.
They will all walk away.
Where will they go?

A little star and a pretty cloud
Played hide and seek together,
And boys and girls looked up and said,
"What very pleasant weather!"

It is night now.
The sun has gone down.
Tom and Mary can see the stars.

Mary: I saw a little star.
Where has the star gone now?
Tom: It hides behind the cloud.
Mary: The star and the cloud
play hide and seek together.
Tom: Now I can see the little star.
The pretty cloud has gone away.
The wind blows the cloud away.
Mary: Now I can see one, two, three,
four, five, six, seven stars.
Tom: Good night, little stars.
Mary: Good night, pretty cloud.

A little star and a pretty cloud
played hide and seek together.
The boys and girls looked up
and watched them.
This is what the boys and girls said.

"The star is hiding behind the cloud.
It plays hide and seek.
We can see where it is.
The wind will blow the cloud away.
Then we shall see the pretty star.
We can watch you, little star."

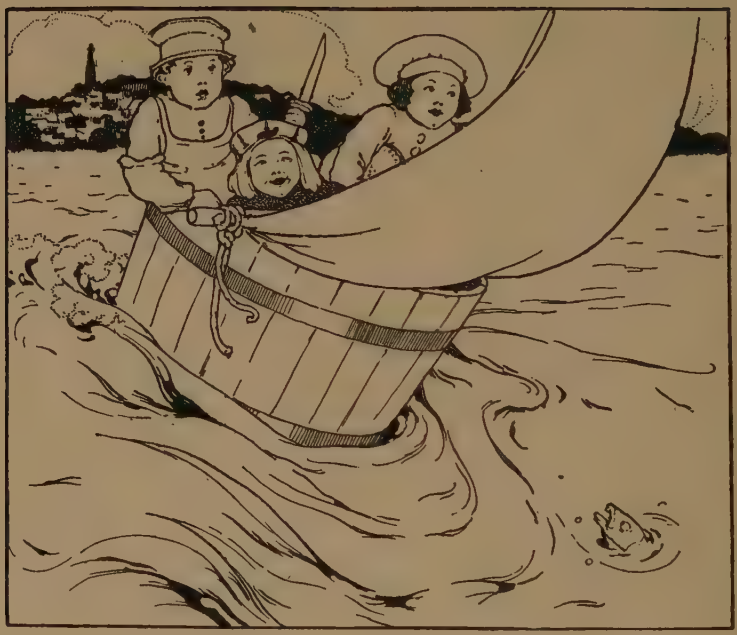
We played hide and seek this morning.
The boys and girls played together.
Spot played with us, too.
Tom had to find us.
We all ran away to hide.
We all ran away very fast.

Then Tom called, "Are you ready?
Ready or not,
You shall be caught,
In your hiding place or not."

Tom looked for us.
He looked all around the house.
He looked all around under the trees.
He did not find us.

Spot found Mary and barked at her.
He found her hiding behind a tree.
"Oh, Spot!" cried Mary. "Do not bark.
Now Tom will find me."

Mary ran out from her hiding place.
Tom saw her and caught her.
Then we all ran out together.
"All in, all in," cried Tom.



Rub-a-dub-dub,
Three men in a tub,
And who do you think were there?
The butcher, the baker,
The candle-stick maker,
And all of them going to the fair.

We play that we are
the butcher, the baker,
and the candle-stick maker.
We play that we are going to the fair.
We sail away and away.
We sail in a tub at home.

Away we go! Away we go!
We are three men in a tub,
three men in a big round tub.
What fun it is to sail in a tub!

Sail fast! Sail fast!
Over the water we go.
Look out! Look out!
The tub will tip over.
Then into the water we go.

Good-by, good-by! We go sailing away.
We are three men in a tub.
Do you think we shall tip over?
Do you think we shall fall
into the water?
Oh no! We are sailing in a tub at home.

We are going to the fair.
We shall see a fine lady
ride on a white horse.
We shall hear the band play.
Rub-a-dub-dub! Rub-a-dub-dub!
We shall hear the horns blow.
Toot, toot! Toot, toot!

We think this is the best way to play.
This is the best fun of all.

Hark! Hark! I hear the band.
I hear the horn blow.
The band is marching to the fair.
"Toot, toot, toot," goes the horn.
Here they all come marching.
Tramp, tramp, tramp, tramp.
Here they all come marching.

Rub-a-dub-dub, rub-a-dub-dub!
Clear the way!
The band is coming.
Left, right, left, right.
Here the boys come marching.

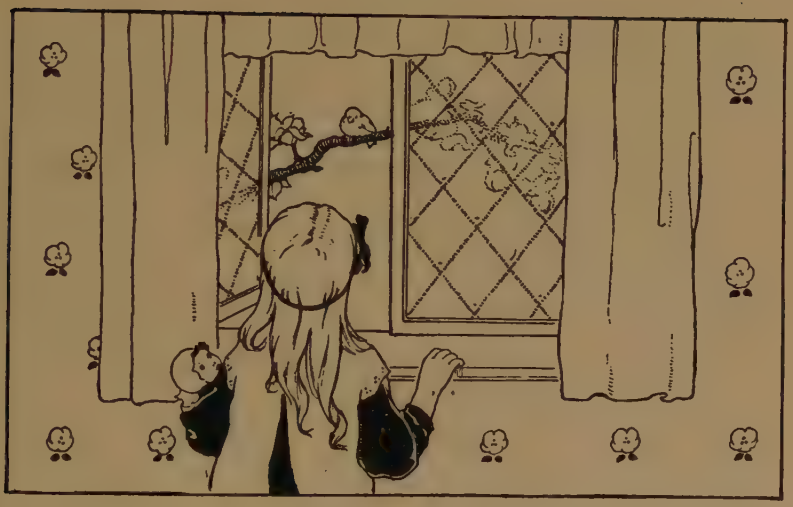
Rub-a-dub-dub, rub-a-dub-dub!
Hark! Hark! Hark!
The band is coming.
Left, right, left, right.
Here the girls come marching.

Rub-a-dub-dub, rub-a-dub-dub!
Clear the way!
The band is coming.
Tramp, tramp, tramp, tramp.
Here the men come marching.

Hurrah for our flag! Hurrah! Hurrah!
What a pretty flag it is!
It is red, white, and blue.
We call it the stars and stripes.
There are white stars on the flag.
They look like stars in a blue sky.
There are red stripes and white stripes.
We think this is the best flag of all.

SOMETHING TO PLAY

Let us play that we are going
to the fair.
Who will be the three men in the tub?
They may go sailing away to the fair.
One of the boys may blow the horn.
One of the girls may take the flag.
She will say, "Hurrah for the stars
and stripes."
Another boy may be the market man.
He will call, "Plum cakes, plum cakes!
Who will buy my plum cakes?"
Who will be Spot?
Hark! Hark! How the dog barks!
All the other boys and girls
may go marching to the fair, too.



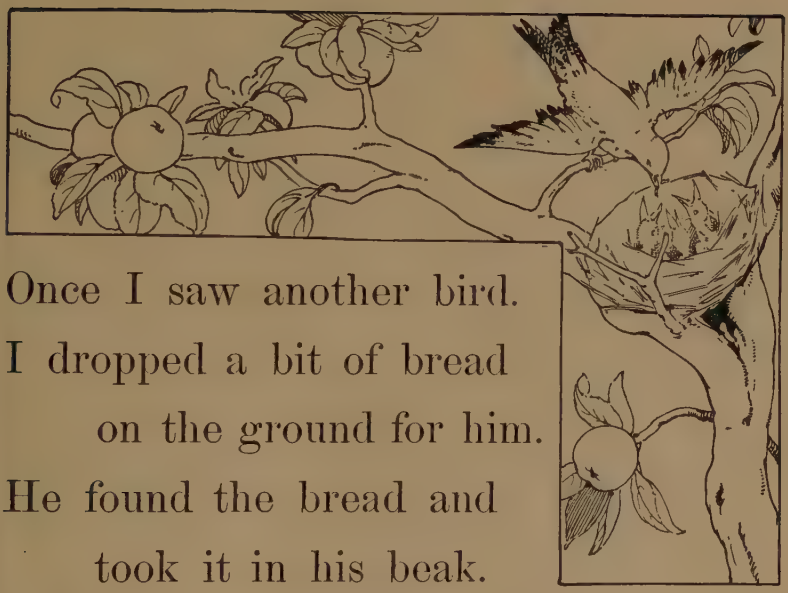
Once I saw a little bird
Come hop, hop, hop;
So I cried, "Little bird,
Will you stop, stop, stop?"

I was going to the window
To say, "How do you do?"
But he shook his little tail,
And far away he flew.

Once I saw a little bird.
He went hop, hop, hop over the ground.
I called out to him, "Good morning.
How do you do, little bird?
Why do you hop, hop, hop
over the ground?
Please stop, stop, stop.

I have a bit of bread for you.
I will drop, drop, drop it
on the ground for you.
I will drop it on the ground,
all around on the ground for you."

But he shook his little tail,
and far away he flew.



Once I saw another bird.
I dropped a bit of bread
on the ground for him.
He found the bread and
took it in his beak.
Then he flew up to the apple tree.
Away he flew with the bread
in his beak.

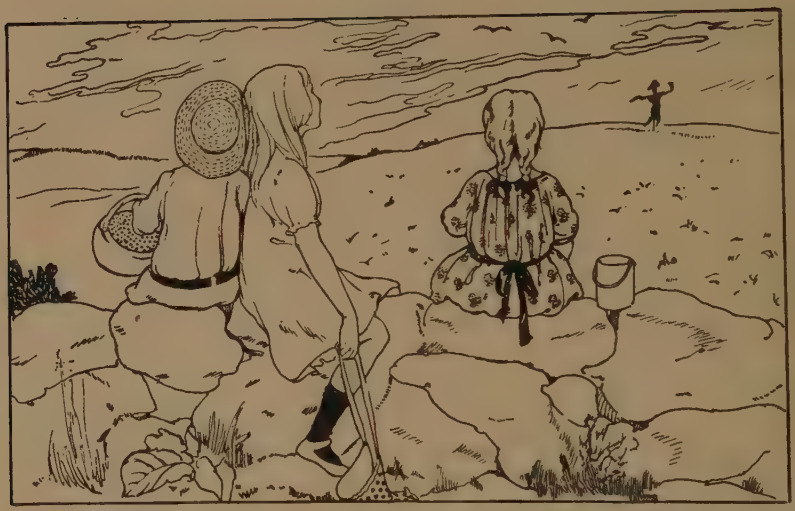
He flew high up to the top of the tree.
There were some little birds high up
in the tree.
He took the bread to feed them.

One day Tom and Mary went out
to the corn field.
They found Frank in the field.
He had some sticks and old clothes
and an old hat.
Tom called out, "Oh, Frank!
What are you doing with the sticks?"
"Watch and you will see," said Frank.

Frank put the sticks into the ground.
Then he put the old clothes
on the sticks.
He put the hat on top,
and then it looked like this.

"Oh, Tom," cried Mary.
"It is an old man.
What a funny old man!
What is he doing
in the corn field?"

"He will scare the crows away,"
said Frank.
"He will scare them away from the corn.
We call him a scare-crow.
We must not let the crows eat
the corn."



Three black crows flew over the field.
"Caw, caw, caw," cried one black crow.
"Look at that big man in the field.
I must have some corn to eat,
but I do not like that man.
We will not go to that field.
Come away. Come away.
When the man goes away,
we will fly down."

Three little girls sat on a wall.
"I think the crows will eat the corn,"
said one little girl.
"Mother must have corn for the hens,"
said the next little girl.
"Fly away, fly away, black crows,"
said the three.

Three black crows sat on a tree.
"I must have some corn to eat,"
said one black crow.
"I do not like that man in the field,"
said the next black crow.
"Go away, go away, old man,"
said the three.

There were two birds
Sitting on a stone.
One flew away,
And then there was one;
The other flew after,
And then there was none,
And so the poor stone
Was left all alone.

When we are ready for bed,
Mother tells us a story.
One night Mother told us this story.

What does the bee do?
Bring home honey.
What does Father do?
Bring home money.
What does Mother do?
Lay out the money.
What does Baby do?
Eat up the honey.

The bee brings honey to the house where the bees live.
Father brings home money.
Mother buys honey for Baby.

The next night Mother said, "Now Tom and Mary may tell the stories."
This is the story that Tom told.

Hark! Hark!
The dogs do bark,
The beggars are coming to town;
Some in rags,
Some in tags,
And some in velvet gowns.

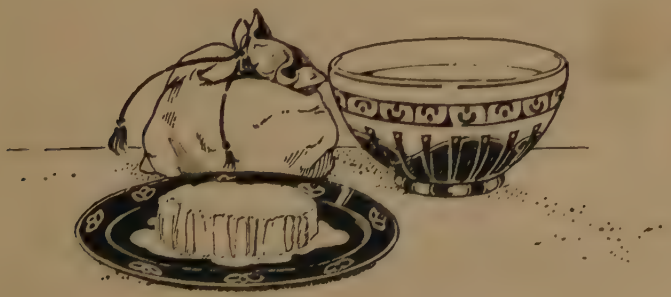
This is the story that Mary told.

Pussy-cat, pussy-cat,
Where have you been?
I've been to London
To look at the queen.
Pussy-cat, pussy-cat,
What did you there?
I frightened a little mouse
Under the chair.

One night Pussy came running home.
She had been away all day.
"Where have you been all day?"
I asked.
"I've been to town," said Pussy.
So I asked her to tell me about it,
and this is what she told me.

I've been to London,
to look at the queen.
The queen sat on a fine big chair,
a very high chair.
She had a velvet gown,
a very pretty velvet gown.
The queen said, "Good morning,
my dear. What is your name?"
"My name is Pussy," said I.

Then a mouse ran under her chair.
The queen was frightened and cried,
"Oh dear! Oh dear!"
I ran fast after the mouse
and caught it.
Then the queen said, "Thank you,
Pussy.
You are a very good Pussy.
You shall have some milk and honey
to eat.
I will give you some money, too.
Thank you, Pussy. Thank you."



THE FOX AND THE CROW

A crow one day found some cheese.
Away she flew to a tree
with the cheese in her beak.
A fox was going by and saw the crow
in the tree.
"I should like that cheese," said he.

So the fox looked up into the tree
and said, "How pretty the crow is!
If she could sing, she would be
called the queen of birds."

"That fox shall hear how well I can
sing," said the crow.
"He shall hear my fine voice.
Caw, caw, caw, caw."

When the crow began to sing,
the cheese fell from her beak.
It dropped down to the ground.
The fox caught it and ran away with it.
"Ha, ha!" cried he.
"What a fine voice you have!
What a fine voice!"

THE THIRSTY CROW

One day a crow was very thirsty.
He flew over the fields looking for
some water to drink.
He flew and flew, and he looked
and looked and looked,
but there was no water.

At last the thirsty crow saw a pitcher.
He found some water in the pitcher.
He could see the water,
but he could not get it.

The poor crow was very, very thirsty.
He hopped over the ground
and looked all around.
He was looking for some stones.
When he found them,
he picked up a stone in his beak
and dropped it into the pitcher.

Then he picked up another stone and
dropped that into the pitcher.
The water came up a little higher.
He picked up another stone and
dropped that into the pitcher.
Then the water came up still higher.
At last the thirsty crow could get
the water.
He had found a way to get it.

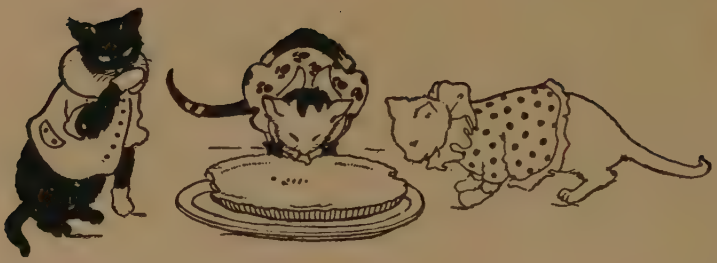
THREE LITTLE KITTENS

Three little kittens lost their mittens,
And they began to cry,
"Oh, Mother dear,
We very much fear
That we have lost our mittens."

"Lost your mittens!
You naughty kittens!
Then you shall have no pie."
"Meow, meow, meow."
"No, you shall have no pie."
"Meow, meow, meow."

The three little kittens
found their mittens,
And they began to cry,
"Oh, Mother dear,
See here, see here.
See! We have found our mittens."

"Put on your mittens,
You silly kittens,
And you may have some pie."
"Purr, purr, purr,
Oh, let us have the pie.
Purr, purr, purr."



The three little kittens
put on their mittens,
And soon ate up the pie;
"Oh, Mother dear,
We greatly fear
That we have soiled our mittens."

"Soiled your mittens!
You naughty kittens!"
Then they began to sigh,
"Meow, meow, meow."
Then they began to sigh,
"Meow, meow, meow."

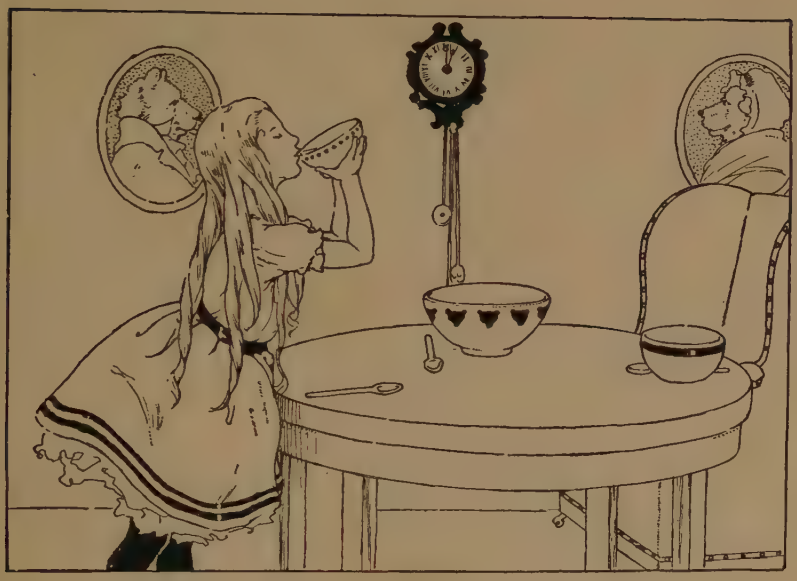
The three little kittens
washed their mittens,
And hung them out to dry;
"Oh, Mother dear,
Do you not hear
That we have washed
our mittens?"

"Washed your mittens!
Oh, you're good kittens.
But I smell a rat close by."
"Hush, hush. Meow, meow.
We smell a rat close by.
Meow, meow, meow."

GOLDEN-HAIR AND THE THREE BEARS

Golden-hair was a little girl.
She went to the woods alone one day.
There she found a little house.
"What a pretty house!" she said.
"What a pretty little house,
all alone in the woods!"

Golden-hair looked into the house.
No one was at home.
She saw the supper all ready to eat.
There was a great big bowl
and a middle-sized bowl
and a little wee bowl.
And there was a great big chair
and a middle-sized chair
and a little wee chair.

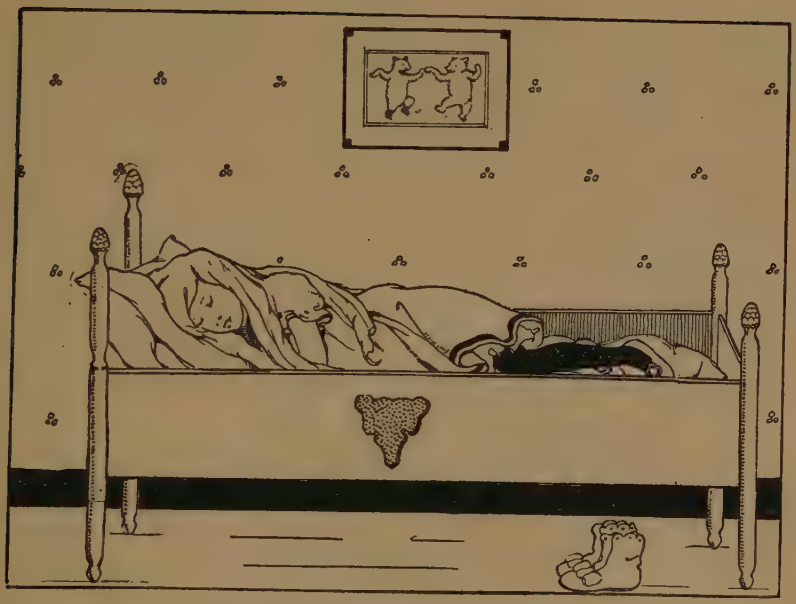


Golden-hair was very thirsty.
First she tasted the milk
in the great big bowl.
Then she tasted the milk
in the middle-sized bowl.
Then she tasted the milk
in the little wee bowl
and she liked it best of all.

First she sat in the great big chair.
Then she sat in the middle-sized chair.
And at last she sat in the little wee
chair, and she liked it best of all.

So Golden-hair took the little wee bowl
and sat in the little wee chair.
The milk was so good that she
drank it all.
Then all at once the little chair broke
and Golden-hair fell down,
bowl and all.

Then Golden-hair went into the next
room and there she saw three beds.
There was a great big bed
and a middle-sized bed
and a little wee bed.



First she lay down on the great big bed.
Then she lay down on the middle-sized bed.
And at last she lay down on the little wee bed, and she liked it best of all.
So there she fell fast asleep.

Three bears lived in this little house.
There was the big father bear
and the middle-sized mother bear
and the little wee bear.
They had been out in the woods.
When they came home, they were
very thirsty.

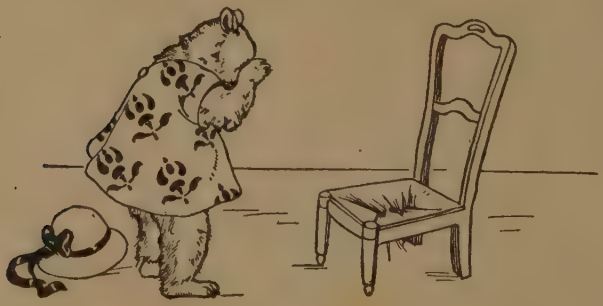
"Somebody has been drinking my milk,"
said the great big bear
in a great big voice.
"Somebody has been drinking my milk,"
said the middle-sized bear
in a middle-sized voice.
"Somebody has been drinking my milk
and it is all gone," said the little
wee bear in a little wee voice.

Then the big father bear looked at his chair.

"Somebody has been sitting in my chair," said the great big bear in a great big voice.

"Somebody has been sitting in my chair," said the middle-sized bear in a middle-sized voice.

"Somebody has been sitting in my chair and has broken it all down," said the little wee bear in a little wee voice.



Then the three bears went
into the bedroom.
"Somebody has been lying on my bed,"
said the great big bear
in a great big voice.
"Somebody has been lying on my bed,"
said the middle-sized bear
in a middle-sized voice.
"Somebody has been lying on my bed
and there she is," said the little
wee bear in a little wee voice.

Then Golden-hair waked up and saw
the three bears looking at her.
She ran out of the house as fast as
she could go, and ran home
to Mother.

THE THREE LITTLE KITTENS

A Play

I

Kitten 1: Oh, Mother dear,
I've lost my mittens.

Kitten 2: I've lost my mittens, too.

Kitten 3: And I've lost mine.

All three: Oh, Mother dear,
We very much fear
That we have lost our mittens.

Mother: Lost your mittens!
You naughty kittens!
Then you shall have no pie.

All: Meow, meow, meow.
Meow, meow, meow.

The kittens run away and look for their mittens.

II

Now the kittens come running back.

K. 1: Oh, Mother dear,
See here! See here!

K. 2: See! I have found my mittens:

K. 3: And I have found mine.

All: See! We have found our mittens.

Mother: Put on your mittens.
Then you shall have some pie.

All: Purr, purr, purr.

The three kittens eat the pie.

III

K. 1: Oh, Mother dear,
I've soiled my mittens.

K. 2: I've soiled my mittens, too.

K. 3: And I've soiled mine.

All: Oh, Mother dear, we greatly fear
That we have soiled our mittens.

Mother: Soiled your mittens!
You naughty kittens!
All: Meow, meow, meow.

IV

They wash their mittens and hang them out to dry.

K. 1: Oh, Mother dear,
I've washed my mittens.
All: Oh, Mother dear,
Do you not hear
That we have washed
our mittens?
Mother: Washed your mittens?
You good little kittens!
But hush, hush! I smell a rat.
All: Hush, hush. Meow, meow.
We smell a rat close by.

The mother cat goes to catch the rat.

SING A SONG OF SIXPENCE

Sing a song of sixpence,
A pocket full of rye;
Four and twenty blackbirds
Baked in a pie.

When the pie was opened,
The birds began to sing;
Was not that a dainty dish
To set before the king?

The king was in the counting-house
Counting out his money;
The queen was in the parlor
Eating bread and honey.

The maid was in the garden
Hanging out the clothes;
When down came a blackbird
And snipped off her nose.

WORD LIST

This list gives the new words in the order in which they first appear. Pages which contain no new words are indicated by a blank line after the page number. The asterisk (*) indicates the vocabulary of rhymes. As a rhyme affords the easiest way for children to acquire a reading vocabulary, the new words are, wherever possible, used first in rhymes. The average of new words in the complete text, including the rhyme vocabulary, is a little over three per page.

*5 see-saw
here
we
go
up
and
down
this
is
the
way
to
town

6 ———

7 ———

*8 wash
our
clothes
on
a
cold
frosty
morning

*9 dry

*10 iron
bake
bread

*11 sweep
house
mend
shoes

12 do
it

13 play

14 you
I

15 so
early
in

16 store
buy

17 Tom
Mary

18 good
can

19 must
not

*20 little
Tucker
sings
for
his
supper
what
shall
he
eat
white
butter

21 dog
asks
bow-wow

22 kitty
she
her
meow

23 hen
red
give
cluck

24 like
meat
milk
corn

25 my
will
some
come

26 your
purr
feed
pets

27 Spot
him
run
fun

28 calls
get
day

*29 pig
went
market
stayed
at
home
had
roast
beef
none
cried
wee
can't
find

30 one

31 cat
please
me

32 why
have
said

33 too
take
oh

34 man
brown
let

35 ———

*36 that
Jack
built
malt
lay
rat
ate
caught

37 then
came

38 lived
fed
girl

39 father
rabbit

*40 ride
cock
horse
Banbury
Cross
fine
lady
upon
Tommy
penny
cake
loaf
two
apple
pie

41 gallop
am
going

42 trot
*gentleman

43 round
pays
big

*44 plum
again
baby
late
bun
done
fat
jiggety-jig

45 mother

46 who

47 did
with

48 from
are

49 away

50 hat
be
mat
wig

51 ever
ha ha
never
funny

52 boy
name

53 all

54 tell
us
story
told
rooster
loved
under
* hollow
tree
cock-a-
doodle-do

*55 turkey
gobble

*56 duck
quack

57 ———

*58 three
four
five
hare
alive
six
seven
eight
nine
ten

59 ———

*60 Jill
hill
fetch
pail
of
water
fell
broke
crown
tumbling
after

61 dear
good-by

62 they
well
fill
ran
poor

63 gone

*64 blue
blow
horn
sheep
meadow
cow
mind
hay-cock
fast
asleep

65 where
them

66 wake
watch

67 out
into

*68 Bo-peep
has
lost
leave
alone
they'll
bring
their
tails
behind

69 ———

70 lying

71 ———

72 ———

73 about
thank

74 met
old
how
very

75 say
when
sun
night
goes

*76 wind
stops
stand
still
walk
slow

77 look
clouds
sky
yes

78 now

*79 star
pretty
hide
seek
together
pleasant
weather

80 ———

81 ———

82 * ready, place, or around

83 found
barked

*84 rub-a-dub-dub
men
tub
think
were
there
butcher
baker
candle
stick
maker
fair

85 sail
over
tip

86 fall
no
hear
band
toot
best

87 hark
marching
tramp

88 clear
left
right

89 hurrah
flag
stripes

90 may
another
other

*91 once
bird
hop
was
window
but
shook
far
flew

92 ground
bit
drop

93 took
beak
high
top

94 field
Frank
an

95 put
scare
crow

96 black
caw
fly

97 sat
wall
next

*98 sitting
stone

99 bed
* does, bee, honey, money

*100 beggars
rags
tags
velvet
gowns

*101 pussy
been
I've
London
queen
frightened
mouse
chair

102 ———

103 ———

104 cheese
fox
by
should

105 if
could
would
voice
began

106 thirsty
drink
last
pitcher

107 picked
higher

*108 kittens
mittens
cry
much
fear
naughty

*109 silly

*110 soon
greatly
soiled
sigh

*111 hung
you're
hush
smell
close

112 golden
hair
bears
woods
great
bowl
middle-
sized

113 first
tasted

114 drank
room

115 ———

116 somebody

117 ———

118 broken

119 as

120 mine

121 ———

122 ———

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